



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
OFFICE OF THE COUNTY COUNSEL

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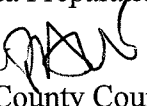
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December 20, 2012

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TO: SACHI A. HAMAI  
Executive Officer  
Board of Supervisors

Attention: Agenda Preparation

FROM: PATRICK A. WU   
Senior Assistant County Counsel

RE: **Item for the Board of Supervisors' Agenda**  
**County Claims Board Recommendation**  
**Katherine Meislin, Ned Meislin v. City of Hawthorne, et al.**  
**United States District Court Case No. CV 06-6692-GW (FFMx)**

Attached is the Agenda entry for the Los Angeles County Claims Board's recommendation regarding the above-referenced matter. Also attached is the Case Summary which is to be made available to the public.

It is requested that this recommendation and the Case Summary be placed on the Board of Supervisors' agenda.

PAW:rfm

Attachments

## Board Agenda

### MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS

Los Angeles County Claims Board's recommendation: Authorize settlement of the matter entitled Katherine Meislin, Ned Meislin v. City of Hawthorne, et al., United States District Court Case No. CV 06-6692-GW (FFMx), in the amount of \$200,000 and instruct the Auditor-Controller to draw a warrant to implement this settlement from the Department of Public Health's budget.

This lawsuit concerns an alleged violation of civil rights committed by a County employee.

## **CASE SUMMARY**

### **INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION**

CASE NAME	Katherine Meislin, Ned Meislin v. City of Hawthorne, et al.
CASE NUMBER	CV06-6692-GW(FFMx)
COURT	United States District Court
DATE FILED	October 20, 2006
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Department of Public Health
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$200,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Thomas E. Beck, Esq. The Beck Law Firm
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Andrea Ross Senior Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	Defendant Inspector Kumari Gossai visited plaintiff Ned and Katherine Meislin's apartment building attempting to perform a routine health inspection. However, Ms. Meislin denied access to Inspector Gossai. Eventually, Ms. Gossai was able to gain access through the security gate. However, Ms. Meislin saw Inspector Gossai inside the apartment building and forcibly removed Inspector Gossai. Inspector Gossai signed a Citizen's Arrest Warrant for battery against Ms. Meislin. The remaining sole cause of action against Ms. Gossai is for violation of Ms. Meislin's civil rights.

Specifically, plaintiffs allege that Ms. Meislin's Fourth Amendment right to be free from unreasonable seizure was violated when inspector Gossai made a Citizen's Arrest thereby causing plaintiff to be arrested without probable cause.

PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE

\$135,102

PAID COSTS, TO DATE

\$31,807